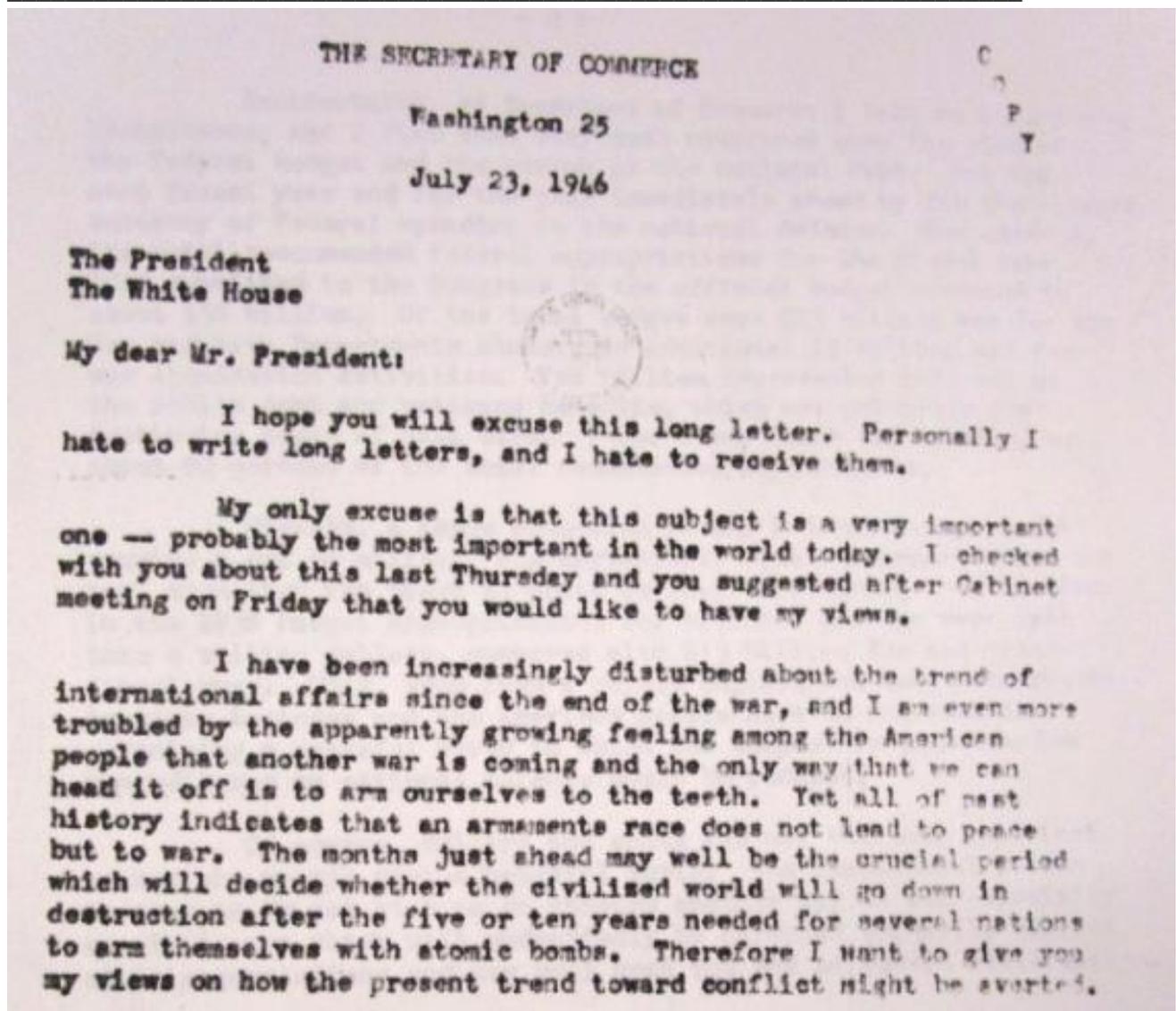


Source 1

Cover Page to Speech from Secretary of Commerce (H. Wallace) to Truman. July 23, 1946. Clark M. Clifford Papers, Box 19. Wallace, Henry. This cover letter is connected to a [speech](#) Wallace intended to deliver on September 12, 1946 at Madison Square Garden in New York. In the speech Wallace called on the United States to develop a peaceful coexistence with Russia.



## Using Source 1

<b>Sourcing Questions:</b>	What is the relationship between the President and the Secretary of Commerce? Why would the Secretary of Commerce write a letter like this to the President? What was his goal? What was Henry Wallace's role in the Roosevelt Administration? Why is that important?
<b>Contextualization Questions</b>	What was going on in Truman's administration when this source was created? How long had Truman been President at this time? What "trend in international affairs" might Wallace be referring to in this source?
<b>Corroboration Tasks</b>	What do other sources indicate what happened after Truman received this letter?
<b>Close Reading Questions</b>	What does Wallace recommend in this source?

Source 2

Memo to Mr. Clifford. September 18, 1946. Clark M. Clifford Papers, Box 19. Wallace, Henry...

THE WHITE HOUSE

8107/90/90

WASHINGTON

September 18, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLIFFORD:



Congressman Walters called from Easton, Pa. and left the following message that he thought might be of interest to you:

"I have just received reliable information from a source that I am certain is correct that Mr. Wallace deliberately tried to embarrass the President with his speech."

He left his phone number in case you were interested in talking to him.

mlh

## Using Source 2

<b>Sourcing Questions</b>	How is the format of this source significant? The author of this source is not clear; Where did this source likely come from? What is the purpose of this source? Is there any way know how reliable it is? <a href="#">Who was Francis Walter?</a>
<b>Contextualization Questions</b>	How long after Wallace's speech was this source created?
<b>Corroboration Tasks</b>	How does this document relate to Source 1? Notice how this source fits between Truman's longhand notes from September 16 and 19 (source 3). Is there any evidence that Truman believed the claim in this note?
<b>Close Reading Questions</b>	

### Source 3

Longhand Notes of President Harry S. Truman, September 16 & 19, 1946. President's Secretary's Files (online). [Sept. 16, 1946 Letter](#). [Sept. 19, 1946 Letter](#).

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Read to the Sec. of State and discussed- not typed or mailed

HST

Sept. 16, 1946

... Wallace and I have always been friendly and I am sure he is not unfriendly to me, and I don't think he would want to put anything over on me. If the speech had been made by anyone else anywhere else it would have attracted no attention. Then my statement at the press conference that I had read and approved the speech added to its importance.

I shall not edit speeches anymore particularly when I am pressed for time as I was that day. Wallace only asked for 15 minutes and it took 30 minutes to read the speech. I was behind in my timetable and some other most important people were coming.

Anyway it was a most unfortunate proceeding. I wish my Cabinet members would stay in their own fields and attend to their own business. Wallace has a habit of attending to every member's business but his own....

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Sept. 19, '46

Mr. Wallace spent 2½ hours talking to me yesterday. I'm not so sure he's as fundamentally sound intellectually as I had thought. He advised me that I should be far to the "left" when Congress was not in session and that I should move right when Congress is on hand and in session. He said F.D.R. did that and F.D. never let his "right" hand know what his "left" hand did!

I'm not so sure that Henry didn't purposely put it over on me with his Madison Square Garden speech. It isn't customary to expect a Cabinet officer to be "fuzzy" in his thinking- but I'm very much afraid Henry not only is "fuzzy" but that he has absorbed some of the "Commy" - "Jesuit" theory that the end justifies the means....

### Using Source 3

<b>Sourcing Questions</b>	What kind of details might occur in someone's <a href="#">daily notes</a> ? Are sources like this more or less reliable? Why might Truman keep notes like these?
<b>Contextualization Questions</b>	How long after Wallace's speech were these two notes? What else was Truman doing between these dates?- Check Truman's <a href="#">daily calendar</a> .
<b>Corroboration Tasks</b>	Note corroboration tasks for Source 2
<b>Close Reading Questions</b>	What is the difference between Truman's thoughts on September 16 and 19? What is Truman's greatest concern as expressed in these sources? What does Truman say about Henry Wallace on September 19th?

#### Source 4

Charlie Ross' Recollection of Meeting Between Henry Wallace & Harry Truman. September 20, 1946. President's Secretary's Files: Box 135, Commerce: Henry A. Wallace (Secretary of

The conversation that followed went into the whole subject of Mr. Wallace's attitude. I had not intended to take part in any policy making as between Mr. Truman and Mr. Wallace, but I was drawn into the discussion. Each of them seemed to want my opinion. I gave it frankly. Mr. Wallace is a strange person. As he said himself, he is a crusader with a messianic<sup>mic</sup> complex. He said, among other things, that he left the Republican party for the Democratic party because he felt that the Republican party was the party of imperialism, <sup>and</sup> the Democratic party was the party of peace. He said the great issue before the American people was the foreign policy of this country. We all agreed on this point. I found that the President had asked him to refrain during the campaign from making any speech on foreign policy. Mr. Wallace had replied that he could not speak without discussing foreign policy. He felt that this was

It was quite clear to me that Mr. Wallace was extremely eager to remain in the Cabinet and continue his fights from within the Cabinet. The President was emphatic in the expression of his belief that in this emergency we should present a united front to the rest of the world. Wallace accused Byrnes, Vandenberg and Connally -- he seemed to have a personal hatred(?) against all three of them, and especially Byrnes and Vandenberg -- of having attempted to set this country on an imperialistic track. No one could doubt the man's sincerity. The matter of his resignation was not brought up by President Truman, but at one point in the conversation, Mr. Wallace said that, of course, if the President wished him to get out of the Cabinet, he would do so. The President brushed this aside, saying that he did not want Mr. Wallace to leave the Cabinet. Wallace disavowed any political ambitions for himself. He expressed

## Using Source 4

<b>Sourcing Questions</b>	Why was this source created? Why would Charlie Ross be the one recording these details?
<b>Contextualization Questions</b>	Why was this meeting held? What was Truman's policy towards the Soviet Union at this time? How did that conflict with Wallace's thinking?
<b>Corroboration Tasks</b>	When was this account created in relation to Wallace's speech? The warning note to Truman?
<b>Close Reading Questions</b>	What specific topics were addressed in this meeting, as recorded in this source? According to this source, who brought up the idea of Wallace's resignation? What concern did Truman mostly express in this source? What commentary did Charlie Ross add to this source about Wallace?

Source 5

Statement by the President: Henry Wallace Resignation. September 20, 1946. Clark M. Clifford Papers: Box 19, Wallace, Henry...

8107/90/90 STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The foreign policy of this country is the most important question confronting us today. Our responsibility for obtaining a just and lasting peace extends not only to the people of this country but to the nations of the world.

The people of the United States may disagree freely and publicly on any question, including that of foreign policy, but the Government of the United States must stand as a unit in its relations with the rest of the world.

I have today asked Mr. Wallace to resign from the Cabinet. It had become clear that between his views on foreign policy and those of the administration — the latter being shared, I am confident, by the great body of our citizens — there was a fundamental conflict. We could not permit this conflict to jeopardize our position in relation to other countries. I deeply regret the breaking of a long and pleasant official association, but I am sure that Mr. Wallace will be happier in the exercise of his right to present his views as a private citizen. I am confirmed in this belief by a very friendly conversation I had with Mr. Wallace on the telephone this morning.

Our foreign policy as established by the Congress, the President and the Secretary of State remains in full force and effect without change. No change in our foreign policy is contemplated. No member of the executive branch of the government will make any public statement as to foreign policy which is in conflict with our established foreign policy. Any public statement on foreign policy shall be cleared with the Department of State. In case of disagreement, the matter will be referred to me.

## Using Source 5

<b>Sourcing Questions</b>	What was Truman's purpose in issuing this statement? Why not just ignore the issue?
<b>Contextualization Questions</b>	When was this source created? How long was it after Truman's meeting with Wallace? What was Truman's policy towards the Soviet Union at this time? How did that conflict with Wallace's thinking?
<b>Corroboration Tasks</b>	To what extent are the reasons given in this source for Wallace's resignation consistent with the narrative presented by other sources?
<b>Close Reading Questions</b>	How did Truman hear about Wallace's resignation? In this source, what does Truman give as the reason for Wallace's resignation? What does Truman say in this source about his foreign policy? How does that reveal his concerns about this incident? What does Truman reveal about his feelings about Wallace's freedom of speech?